Leicester. ~~Sept~~ Sept 21/61.

Dear Burleigh;

Yrs. of the 9th inst. duly reached me, and I subsequently heard from Whipple that the closing sheets of the Mss. had been rec'd., read, & were in printers' hands; - and being in Boston this week I went to see the printers & found them at work upon it. I gave them instructions to see that you had proof of every page, including the Appendix, and to bring the whole to a close as soon as possible; - their force has been a good deal reduced by dull times, and they can't turn off work as fast as in ordinary times.

At an Exec. Comtee. meeting on Thursday, I bro't up the subject of the Report, and of your work upon it, and suggested that some additional sum be voted to you, - not as full compensation for your protracted & really arduous labors,

(for in existing circumstances that is out of the question), but as our recognition of these labours, and as an expression of our sense of their importance and value to the common cause. The Ex. Com. unanimously agreed with me in the matter, and voted, that "in view of the great labour which Mr. Burleigh has performed in the preparation of the Annual Report of the Society, he be allowed the additional sum of Twenty five Dollars, and also Fifty copies of the Report for his own use & disposal."

The Report will make a document (quite thick enough for a book) of not less

than 330 pages; the cost to us, for 750 copies, will probably exceed .50 cts a copy. Fifty cents will probably be the retail price of the work; and if you could sell your copies, in course of the fall, at your meetings, &c., at that rate, it would add another $25. to your purse — which we shd all rejoice in. What think you of my having 100 or 200 of the Report done up in a cover to read something like this — "The Antislavery History of the John Brown Year — being the Annual Report," &c. &c. &c. Let me know what you think of this, & how you would amend that title, if we decide to do something of the sort. You may write to me in Boston, where I expect to be on Monday & Tuesday. —

— Now as to future Reports, you have already been informed of our wish and arrangement on that head, and I believe you have approved the same. But I will repeat, to make sure. — The Report for yr. ending May 1. '61 to be ready ~~published~~ for publication next May, in conjunction with Report for yr. ending May 1. '62 — i.e. in one pamphlet; that the report for '61. be limited to 75 pages; and that for '62 not to exceed (if possible) 100 pages.

We shall gladly look to you to prepare these two Reports.

Have you drawn something on what is due you for writing the just-finished Report?

Truly Yrs. Sam'l May Jr

MSS.B.1.6 v.8, p.75